

NOVEMBER WHEAT FORECAST, 1939-40. 2,800,000 (3,080,401) acres.  
33,000,000 (31,674,418) Bush. Average 11.79 (10.28) Bush. per acre.

**METHODS OF COLLECTION.** Particulars of areas intended to be sown were obtained from each farmer at the February-April collection of statistics and modified by reports received after the completion of seeding.

For the present estimate, approximately 120 police officers furnished reports on the 400 principal wheat districts in the State, giving the estimated yield per acre and a summary of the conditions.

**RAINFALL - AGRICULTURAL AREAS, 1939.** (mean for previous 34 years in parenthesis). Taking the agricultural areas of the State as a whole, the rainfall from April to July was approximately the same as the mean-6.58 (6.66) inches, and the crops were growing nicely during that period. August was exceptionally wet with a State average of 3.20 (1.98) inches and at that time it did not seem unreasonable to expect a record yield per acre. Then there was a change for the worse, both September and October being exceptionally dry. For those two months the State average was only 1.50 (2.96) inches, the Upper North registering only 0.53 (2.08), Murray Mallee 1.08 (2.80), Western 1.10 (2.34), Central 1.50 (2.96) and Lower North 1.79 (3.84) inches. This dry spell unfortunately was also accompanied by hot drying winds, and in some districts severe damage was caused by frosts. The Central, Lower North and South Eastern Divisions were able to withstand the dry spell fairly well, but crops deteriorated badly in the other Divisions, especially the Murray Mallee where the winter rains had not been so good as in the rest of the State, the April-July totals being only 4.27 (5.15) inches. Further deterioration was averted by the exceptionally heavy falls on the 31st October and following days, and late crops received great benefit, but the rain was too late in many cases, especially in the marginal areas. Fortunately, very few districts report damage from rust, takeall, grasshoppers &c., and the above yield of 33,000,000 bushels has been estimated.

**SUMMARY FOR 1938-39 and 1939-40 IN EACH DIVISION AND PRINCIPAL COUNTIES.**

Division	ACREAGE (1000)		YIELD (1000Bush)		PER ACRE	
	1938-39	1939-40	1938-39	1939-40	1938-39	1939-40
CENTRAL	472	420	6,911	6,350	14.6	15.1
LOWER NORTH	756	685	11,332	12,000	15.0	17.5
UPPER NORTH	286	285	1,641	3,300	5.8	11.6
SOUTH EASTERN	39	30	584	700	15.0	23.3
WESTERN	830	760	7,121	7,350	8.6	9.7
MURRAY MALLEE	697	620	4,085	3,300	5.9	5.3
TOTAL	3080	2,800	31,674	33,000	10.3	11.8

  

County	1938-39		1939-40		County	1938-39		1939-40	
	Bush. ,000	per acre	Bush. ,000	per acre		Bush. ,000	per acre	Bush. ,000	per acre
Eyre	404	5.5	385	5.5	Dufferin	508	7.4	400	7.3
Fergusson	2,565	18.2	2,400	19.2	Flinders	947	12.5	1,025	16.4
Gawler	1,504	14.8	1,550	17.4	Jervois	1,860	9.1	2,100	10.6
Hight	1,542	18.8	1,250	17.1	Le Hunte	849	8.1	350	8.4
Daily	3,932	13.7	4,175	16.2	Musgrave	651	11.1	625	11.9
Stanley	4,241	17.9	4,275	19.7	Robinson	993	8.3	850	8.2
Victoria	2,750	14.2	3,100	17.8	Way	506	6.3	575	7.5
Dalhousie	626	7.0	1,000	11.5	Albert	852	4.8	575	3.7
Frome	951	6.4	1,900	12.7	Alfred	1,030	5.0	1,025	5.5
Buckingham	434	16.2	500	25.0	Buccleuch	711	5.9	675	6.8
Buxton	555	7.1	625	8.6	Chadros	1,291	8.8	775	5.6

A. W. LOWDEN

Statistical Office, ADELAIDE.  
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GOVERNMENT STATIST.